

OFFICE OF ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
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State Energy Council & Green Gov't Steering Committee
Friday, July 25, 2008
Meeting Minutes
Kennedy Conference Room - Capitol Building
Des Moines, Iowa

Roya Stanley, Liz Buck, Mike Coveyou, Deborah Svec-Carstens, John Perkins, Dean Ibsen, Jeff Geerts, Joan Conrad, Sharon Tahtinen, Lee Wilkinson, Bob Mulqueen, Brian Crowe, Rob Grayson, Michelle Bauer, Christy Twait via telephone.

Sustainable Design Standards Timeframe

- Realistically probably first couple weeks of September.

Energy Codes 2008 Conference update by Mike Coveyou.

- Training from DOE for building code officials?
- Need energy code training for energy code officials on a continuing basis.
- OCA, IUB, and DPS to be conversed about the energy code training.

IDED Sustainable Communities Plot Program Update by Jeff Geerts.

- Completed 3 workshops across Iowa to talk about Guidelines for the Green Streets program.
- Targeting resources to communities to take a holistic approach to sustainability.
- West Union and Woodbine.
- OEI and DED talking about merging community grant program through Power Fund and the Green Streets program.
- Possible help from AmeriCorp (GreenCorp) people.

Policy Initiatives at State and Federal Level

- Mike Coveyou: MGA close to having something. Defer MGA update until Stuart Crine has returned. ASHRA 189.9 close to becoming code. Worth watching closely.

Green Summit Debriefing - Thought it went well.

Observations:

- a lot of enthusiasm, generated a lot of good ideas
- education/communication piece, needing to get information out to agency coordinators. Maybe need to have central communication about options, going green.

- Getting word out that progress will be measured some will resistant to change even if it makes sense. Using “measure” to push for progress.
- Something to come from the very top to every employee, not just the green gov’t coordinators.
- Follow-up with employee newsletter, where all employees can read about what’s going on and it’s not just coming from the green coordinator.
- Frontline employees, need Green Gov’t 101, what are the little things I can do and what is the impact.
- Biofuels is a tough issue. Hard to get more people to use it because pumps are not always on the way
- “Traveling smarter” part of Biofuels task force has a lot of potential.
- Looking at including state employees outside of Des Moines to transit passes.

Task Forces meeting:

1. Keeping people energized
2. Focusing – can’t be serious about 60 ideas
3. Narrowing down priorities
4. Starting to think about accountability and measurements
5. What other agencies or skill sets should be at the table
6. What types of questions on the audits (inventory of activities and initial development of baseline measures)? Making recommendations, how would you like to see progress measured?
7. Leased facilities, where can we make in-roads

Green Gov’t 101 – Let’s move forward with this, how?

- Standard PowerPoint for lunch and learn types, for coordinators or others to present at monthly meetings.
- Compilation of who could provide the lunch-and-learns.
- Green E-minders. Short bullets.

Really need to get on the other elected officials to participate in Greening Gov’t.

- At Executive Council, Governor to ask elected officials to appoint someone at a high level to get on this.

Have something motivating from Governor, similar to Lighten Up Iowa.
Increasing ridership, teams, saving miles.

People to help with green performance measures:

Phyllis Blood (DHR)

Dave Putz (DOT)

Mike Coveyou (DPS)